

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

ESAKI *et al.*

Filed: July 31, 2000

Application Number: 09/629,820

For: RECLINING MECHANISM FOR VEHICLE SEAT



Group Art Unit 3636

Examiner M. Nelson, Jr.

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

RECEIVED

NOV 08 2001

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a response/amendment in the above-captioned application.

- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Please charge my **Deposit Account Number 08-1480** in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- ☐ A check in the amount of **\$0.00** for _____ is attached.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- ☒ Also enclosed is a *Response to the Office Action*.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

REED SMITH HAZEL & THOMAS LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
November 5, 2001

JUAN CARLOS A. MARQUEZ
Registration No. 34,072

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of
ESAKI *et al.*

Filed: July 31, 2000

Application Number: 09/629,820

For: RECLINING MECHANISM FOR VEHICLE SEAT



Group Art Unit 3636

Examiner M. Nelson, Jr.

#5
4.10
11/8/01

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

NOV 08 2001

GROUP 3600

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on October 4, 2001, the period of response to which is set to expire on November 4, 2001.

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated) October 4, 2001 (U.S. Patent Office Paper No. 4). In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with examination of the application on the merits, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Election of Species Requirement

In response to the Examiner's election of species requirement set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the continued prosecution of the invention identified as Group 6, set forth in claims 1, 2 and 9, without traverse. Applicants submit that claims 1 and 2 are generic to all of the species identified in the Office Action. Further, Applicants understand that the non-elected species and their corresponding claims are hereby withdrawn from further consideration in this pending application. However, should any generic claim be considered allowed in this application, it is understood that the non-elected claims will be restored and allowed with this application. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file divisional applications on such non-elected species.